

Claims

- 1 A pharmaceutical composition comprising Varicella Zoster Virus IE63 protein or
5 an immunologically functional derivative and a pharmaceutically acceptable
excipient.
2. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a nucleic acid encoding IE63 or an
immunologically functional derivative thereof.
3. IE63 gene protein or immunologically functional derivative thereof for use in
10 medicine.
4. Use of IE 63 protein or an immunologically active derivative thereof for the
manufacture of a medicament for the prevention or amelioration of Varicella or
Zoster.
5. A pharmaceutical composition as claimed in claim 1 additionally comprising other
15 VZV antigens.
6. A pharmaceutical composition as claimed in claim 5 wherein the second Varicella
Zoster protein is selected from the group, gpI, gpII, gpIII, gpIV, gpV or IE62 or
immunological functional derivative thereof.
7. A pharmaceutical composition as claimed in claim 1, 2, 5 or 6 additionally
20 comprising an adjuvant.
8. A pharmaceutical composition as claimed in claim 7 wherein the adjuvant
preferentially induces a TH1 response.
9. A pharmaceutical composition as claimed in claim 9 wherein the antigen is
presented as an oil in water emulsion together with QS21 and 3D-MPL.
- 25 10. A method of treating a patient suffering from or susceptible to Varicella Zoster
virus infection, comprising administering to a patient a safe and effective amount

of a pharmaceutical composition as claimed in any one of claims 1, 2, 5, 6, 7, 8 or 9.

11. A method of producing a pharmaceutical composition comprising a Varicella Zoster virus IE63 protein, nucleic acid or immunologically functional derivative thereof, comprising mixing said protein, nucleic acid or derivative with a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient.
12. A method as claimed in claim 11, wherein the excipient comprises an adjuvant.

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